

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
)
KURT PERSSON) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)
Application No.: Unassigned) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Filed: December 20, 2001)
)
For: SIGN UNIT)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified Application, filed concurrently herewith, as indicated:

In the Specification:

Page 1, before line 1, insert:

--This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(a) for the filing of Swedish Application No. 0004785-2 on December 22, 2000, and under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) for the filing of United States Provisional Application No. 60/260,224 on June 9, 2001. Such United States Provisional Application was originally filed in the Swedish language and an accurate verified English translation has been provided.--

In the Claims:

Kindly replace Claims 3 to 10, and 12 to 13 as follows:

3. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said light-emitting member (2) is inserted into the associated slot in the sheet-like device (1) in such manner that the front end (5) of said member (2) is positioned at the front (3) of the sheet-like device (1) and its rear opposite end (6) is positioned at a considerable distance behind the back (4) of the device (1).

4. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is a sheet-like element which is straight and/or curved in cross-section.

5. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is tubular (19).

6. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises a plurality of rod-shaped or bar-shaped elements (12) which are arranged side by side.

7. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises a number of elements in the shape of a sheet (2, 2', 2''), tube (19) and/or rod (12).

8. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the length between the ends (5, 6) of the light-emitting member (2) increases from the upper

portion of said member in the mounted state of the sign unit (1) towards the lower portion (6') of the member.

9. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the edge sides (6-8) of the light-emitting member (2) which are not intended to emit light are provided with emission-preventing means, such as a reflective coating (25), a prismatic body (22), a mirror element or the like.

10. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the portion (10, 11), projecting from the sheet-like device (1), of the light-emitting member (2) is enclosed in a casing (16) which is fixed to said device (1) and which is made of a transparent material.

12. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises an inner portion (18) and, surrounding the same, an outer portion (19), and that a light-guiding element (23) with a small degree of attenuation of light is arranged adjacent to and along the outer portion (19) and inside the same, that a first reflective device (22) is arranged at the rear end of the outer portion (19) in order to reflect light from said portion (19) into one end of the light-guiding element (23), and that a second reflective device (24) is arranged at the other opposite end of the light-guiding element (23) to reflect light from the light-guiding element (23) into the other portion (18).

13. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises an inner member (2") and, surrounding the same, outer members (2, 2'), and that the inner member (2") projects from the rear end (6) of the surrounding member/members (2, 2').

Please add the following new Claims 15 to 20:

15. (New) A sign unit as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said light-emitting member (2) is inserted into the associated slot in the sheet-like device (1) in such manner that the front end (5) of said member (2) is positioned at the front (3) of the sheet-like device (1) and its rear opposite end (6) is positioned at a considerable distance behind the back (4) of the device (1).

16. (New) A sign unit as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is a sheet-like element which is straight and/or curved in cross-section.

17. (New) A sign unit as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is tubular (19).

18. (New) A sign unit as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is tubular (19).

19. (New) A sign unit as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises a plurality of rod-shaped or bar-shaped elements (12) which are arranged side by side.

20. (New) A sign unit as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises a plurality of rod-shaped or bar-shaped elements (12) which are arranged side by side.

REMARKS

The present Amendment modifies the claim format only so as to eliminate the use of multiple dependency.

An Information Disclosure Statement and Transmittal of Verified English Translation of Provisional Application are filed herewith.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOOTNOTES

Attachment to PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT dated December 20, 2001

3. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [claims 1 and 2] claim 1, characterized in that said light-emitting member (2) is inserted into the associated slot in the sheet-like device (1) in such manner that the front end (5) of said member (2) is positioned at the front (3) of the sheet-like device (1) and its rear opposite end (6) is positioned at a considerable distance behind the back (4) of the device (1).

4. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is a sheet-like element which is straight and/or curved in cross-section.

5. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of claims 1-3] claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) is tubular (19).

6. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of claims 1-3] claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises a plurality of rod-shaped or bar-shaped elements (12) which are arranged side by side.

7. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises a number of elements in the shape of a sheet (2, 2', 2"), tube (19) and/or rod (12).

Attachment to PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT dated December 20, 2001

8. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the length between the ends (5, 6) of the light-emitting member (2) increases from the upper portion of said member in the mounted state of the sign unit (1) towards the lower portion (6') of the member.

9. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the edge sides (6-8) of the light-emitting member (2) which are not intended to emit light are provided with emission-preventing means, such as a reflective coating (25), a prismatic body (22), a mirror element or the like.

10. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims], characterized in that the portion (10, 11), projecting from the sheet-like device (1), of the light-emitting member (2) is enclosed in a casing (16) which is fixed to said device (1) and which is made of a transparent material.

12. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises an inner portion (18) and, surrounding the same, an outer portion (19), and that a light-guiding element (23) with a small degree of attenuation of light is arranged adjacent to and along the outer portion (19) and inside the same, that a first reflective device (22) is arranged at the rear end of the outer portion (19) in order to reflect light from said portion (19) into one end of the light-guiding element (23), and that a second reflective device (24) is arranged at the

13. (Amended) A sign unit as claimed in [any one of claims 1-11] claim 1, characterized in that the light-emitting member (2) comprises an inner member (2'') and, surrounding the same, outer members (2, 2'), and that the inner member (2'') projects from the rear end (6) of the surrounding member/members (2, 2').